

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated March 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

Remarks

The present amendment is filed in conjunction with the filing of an RCE and responds to the final Official Action dated November 21, 2005. A petition for a one month extension of the time to respond and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1058 the fee for this extension accompany this amendment. That Official Action considered applicants' arguments but found them moot in view of new grounds of rejection. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and second paragraph. Claims 1-3 and 7-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Yach U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0128036 (Yach). Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yach in view of Hamilton U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0176377 (Hamilton). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yach and Hamilton further in view of Zhang U.S. Patent No. 6,661,785 (Zhang). These grounds of rejection are addressed below following a brief discussion of the present invention to provide context. Claims 1-3, 7 and 10 have been amended to be more clear and distinct. New claims 13-20 have been added. Claims 1-20 are presently pending.

The Present Invention

A wireless communication system according to one aspect of the invention includes a mobile switching center providing voice connection services to a plurality of wireless devices, such as wireless telephones. The mobile switching center can provide voice connections between the wireless telephones, and also provides a connection to a public switched telephone network, in order to allow connections between the wireless telephones and wireline telephones.

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated March 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

The system preferably includes a server providing centralized directory services and centralized calling features, accessible by establishing an Internet Protocol (IP) connection between a wireless telephone requesting such services and the server. The telephone suitably communicates with the server when needed, in order to search for a desired telephone number, and also to download commands needed to implement desired calling features. Once a desired telephone number has been located in the directory and provided to the telephone, the telephone number may be selected, for example, by using the wireless telephone display and keypad, in order to initiate a call. In order to initiate the call, the wireless telephone initiates a connection suitable for voice communication. This connection may be initiated through the mobile switching center.

Alternatively, the system may include a voice over IP server, allowing the wireless telephone to initiate a voice over IP connection. In such a case, the voice over IP server manages an IP data stream to and from the wireless telephone, performing necessary translation between IP data and voice signals, and manages the transmission of communication data between the wireless telephone and the called telephone, suitably by providing a connection to a wired or wireless switching network, depending on the nature of the telephone being called.

In addition to using directory information to place calls, a wireless telephone may receive commands from the directory and features server and use these commands to implement calling features, such as monitoring a telephone that is busy when called and alerting the user when the telephone being monitored is no longer busy. Such commands may be downloaded from the

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated March 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

directory and features server upon initial connection, or alternatively a command may be downloaded when needed.

Section 112, First Paragraph, Rejection

This rejection objected to the amendment to claim 1 to read a central data server as new matter. While it is believed that the previous amendment is clearly supported by the specification, (see, for example, page 1, lines 7 and 8; page 2, lines 15 and 16; page 2, lines 17 and 18; and page 5, line 21-page 6, line 1), the present amendment deletes the word "central" and now reads "a data server providing centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features" consistent with the disclosure at page 5, line 21-page 6, line 1, for example, which reads: "The server 114 may suitably be maintained by or for an enterprise 116 maintaining centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features, . . . "

Section 112, Second Paragraph, Rejection

This rejection states "Claim 1 recites the limitation "the data server" in line 1 of the claim." It is believed that the rejection is actually directed to claim 2. The amendment of claim 1 to read "a data server" addresses this rejection by providing proper antecedent basis for "the data server" of claim 2.

The Art Rejections

All of the art rejections are based on Salovuori, Yach (1-3, 7-12) in combination with Hamilton (4 and 5), or in combination with Hamilton in further view of Zhang (6). As addressed in greater detail below, Yach, Hamilton and Zhang do not support the Official Action's reading of them and the rejections based thereupon should be reconsidered and withdrawn. Further, the

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated March 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

Applicants do not acquiesce in the analysis of Yach, Hamilton and Zhang made by the Official Action and respectfully traverse the Official Action's analysis underlying its rejections.

The Official Action rejected claims 1-3 and 7-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Yach. In light of the present amendments to claim 1, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 1, as amended, claims a wireless communication system for supporting communication by a plurality of wireless devices. The system comprises a packet data interface for supporting packet data communication by each of the plurality of wireless devices, a voice interface for supporting voice communication by each of the plurality of wireless devices; and a data server providing data and centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features to each of the plurality of wireless devices through a packet data connection upon request by the wireless devices. The data server provides common access to data by two or more of the wireless devices. The data server provides both data and centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features organized and formatted for retrieval in response to user selection of the data, directory services and features.

These features in the claimed combination are not taught and are not made obvious by Yach. Yach teaches a dual mode mobile device connected to a data packet network. It is mainly focused upon the dual operation upon voice and data at the same time. A user is able to use the mobile device to gain access to data items associated with or directed to the user, for example, data hosted on the user's personal computer 120 or a commonly shared data storage mechanism, for example a server used in a corporate environment. However, the data accessible to the mobile device of Yach is data associated with the user of the mobile device. Yach does not teach

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated March 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

that a mobile device uses a packet data connection to gain access to data, centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features commonly accessible to other similar devices, as is presently claimed by claims 1 and 7. Access by a mobile device to commonly accessible information, as is claimed by claim 7, allows for a simpler design for mechanisms for storage and retrieval of commonly accessible information that does not need to be associated with a particular user, such as a central corporate telephone directory or a set of calling features. Claim 1, by contrast, provides for a combination of access to voice communication together with retrieval of data and features according to user selections. Claims 1-3 and 7-12, as amended, therefore define over the cited art and should be allowed.

Additionally, newly added claims 13-20 address commands "utilized to implement monitoring a telephone that is busy . . ." (13 and 20); "storing records for an employee . . . including a hierarchical listing or a series of function descriptions of the employee's position" (14); "commands utilized to implement configuration . . ." (15); "commands with different commands available to different classes of users" (16); "the voice interface senses conditions relating to voice communication" (17); "commands downloaded to allow a particular wireless device to take advantage of special features offered by a system" (18); and "downloading commands . . . to implement calling features" (19), all of which should be separately considered with respect to the relied upon art and which further define over that art. Exemplary support for these newly added claims is found at page 3, lines 23 and 24 (13 and 20); page 6, lines 24 and 25 (14); page 7, lines 2-6 (15); page 7, lines 11-13 (16); page 9, lines 20-23; page 10, lines 15-20 (18 and 19), respectively.

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated March 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

The Official Action rejected claims 4 and 5 based upon in view of Hamilton. Hamilton does not cure Yach's failings as a reference and, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7, as amended, claims a wireless device for communication using directory information and calling features through a packet data connection with a data server. The claimed device comprises a voice connection interface for establishing and maintaining a voice connection for voice communication through a switched voice network and a business service client module for retrieving from the data server calling information commonly accessible by the wireless device and by other similar wireless devices and for processing and presenting calling information received from the data server, the business service client module being operative to access centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features provided by the data server, and to direct the initiation of voice communication with a desired telephone upon identification and retrieval of the desired telephone number from the data server. These limitations in the claimed combination are not taught and are not made obvious by Yach.

Claim 10, as amended, claims establishing a packet data connection between one of a plurality of wireless devices and a directory and features server storing calling information commonly accessible to two or more of the wireless devices, selecting desired calling information from centralized directory services and centrally controlled calling features provided by the server and delivering the calling information to a requesting wireless device and initiating and maintaining a call from the requesting wireless device to a telephone identified by the calling information delivered from the server. As noted above with respect to claim 7, Yach does not teach and does not make obvious storing commonly accessible information of the claimed nature

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated March 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

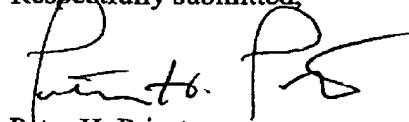
and delivering the information to a wireless device over a packet data connection. Claim 10, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

The Official Action rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Yach in view of Hamilton in further view of Zhang. Claim 6 is a dependent claim having claim 1 as a base claim. Because claim 1 has been shown to be allowable, claim 6 should also be allowed. Further, Zhang does not cure Yach and Hamilton's failure as references with respect to claim 6.

Conclusion

All of the presently pending claims, as amended, appearing to define over the applied references, withdrawal of the present rejection and prompt allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter H. Priest
Reg. No. 30,210
Priest & Goldstein, PLLC
5015 Southpark Drive, Suite 230
Durham, NC 27713-7736
(919) 806-1600